#### **PATENT**

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

### CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of application serial number 09/365,961, filed August 2, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 08/628,246, filed April 4, 1996, now Pat. No. 5,932,863, which is a division of application serial number 08/250,799, filed May 25, 1994, now abandoned.

## {EDITED VERSION OF THE AMENDED SPECIFICATION}

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#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 168, 183, and 185 as follows: